



**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING  
Kings Beach, CA 96143**

**September 26, 2014**

**STAFF REPORT:** Hungry Valley SVRA Proposed Acquisition

**STAFF:** Dan Canfield, Planning Manager

**SUBJECT:** Hungry Valley SVRA Proposed Acquisition

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**Summary**

California State Parks, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division is proposing to acquire approximately 845 acres in Kern County, directly contiguous with Hungry Valley State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) near the community of Gorman, California (see Attachment 1).

The subject properties are commonly referred to as Frazier Park Estates and are comprised of four parcels:

- APN 255-560-33
- APN 255-560-34
- APN 255-560-35
- APN 255-560-36

At the May 2, 2014, OHMVR Commission Meeting, the OHMVR Commission appointed an ad hoc committee to host a public hearing in the vicinity of the subject property to receive public comment on the proposed acquisition.

On June 25, 2014, an ad hoc committee of the OHMVR Commission comprised of Chair Paul Slavik and Commissioner Teresa Villegas, along with OHMVR Division staff, hosted a public hearing for the proposed Hungry Valley SVRA acquisition in Frazier Park, California. The public hearing was attended by approximately twenty members of the public. The meeting attendees provided valuable feedback largely in support of the proposed acquisition. As a follow-up to the public hearing, OHMVR Division staff and OHMVR Commission Chair Paul Slavik attended the El Tejon Unified School District Board Meeting on July 31, 2014. OHMVR Division staff and Chair Slavik provided a presentation on the proposed acquisition. The school board and meeting attendees also expressed support for the proposed acquisition.

## **Discussion**

The OHMVR Act of 2003 directs the OHMVR Division to expand existing SVRAs and add new SVRAs (Public Resources Code (PRC) §5090.02(c)). Compliance with this requirement involves acquisition of land in California.

The objective of the proposed Hungry Valley SVRA acquisition is to ensure future property development and uses, support OHV recreation, and motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation. Given the potential for residential and other development on the property, OHMVR Division ownership would allow the state to plan and control development of uses that are compatible with, and beneficial to, Hungry Valley SVRA and OHV recreationists. Being contiguous to Hungry Valley SVRA, the subject property is ideally located for future SVRA-related uses and would provide a buffer from other incompatible land uses.

The proposed acquisition does not involve any change in current land use. Possible future land use changes would be investigated as part of the Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Update/Environmental Impact Report, tentatively scheduled to kick-off in 2015. Possible future land uses for the subject property that may be considered could include campgrounds, OHV safety training center, OHV recreation, access to non-motorized recreation (e.g., hiking, wildlife viewing and mountain biking), and natural/cultural resource conservation. Although it is assumed site planning would occur through the SVRA's general plan update process, site-specific plans could be developed separately if needed. Any proposed plans would be subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review. Until plans for the site can be developed and implemented, the property would be closed to public entry, and the OHMVR Division would manage the undeveloped property to preclude trespass, garbage dumping, and other undesired activities.

The subject property has been appraised and the proposed acquisition has received preliminary "site selection" approval from the California Public Works Board. Due diligence activities are currently ongoing for the proposed acquisition.

## **Commission Action**

For Information Only

## **Attachments**

Attachment 1: Proposed Hungry Valley SVRA Acquisition Location Map

# Hungry Valley SVRA

## Proposed Frazier Park Acquisition

